



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

SYNOPSIS

GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, August 6, 2008
5:00 P.M.**

**City Hall
Room W-120
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113**

MELANIE RICHARDSON, CHAIR

MARY ANN RUIZ, VICE CHAIR

MIKE FLAUGHER

LESLEE HAMILTON

G.M. HARDING

JAMES KIM

JULIE MATSUSHIMA

ERIK KARSTAN SMITH

1 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Present: Chair Richardson, Vice-Chair Flaughner, Commissioners Matsushima, Chew, Kramer and Hamilton

Late: None

Excused Absence: None

Absent: Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Harding

2 ORDERS OF THE DAY

Chair Richardson stated that Item 5 will be heard first followed by Item 8 then Item 9. The Citizen's Oversight Committee (COC) will have a time-certain of 6:30 p.m. Any Commission items that have not been heard will be heard after the COC adjourns.

3 CEREMONIAL ITEMS

3.1 Introduction of New Commissioners

New Commissioners Paul Kramer and Winston Chew were introduced.

4 ORAL COMMUNICATION

5 CONSENT CALENDAR

- 5.1 Approval of June 18, 2008 Synopsis
- 5.2 Approval of July 23, 2008 Synopsis
- 5.3 Review of Planning Applications
- 5.4 Set a Public Hearing September 3, 2008 for Naming of New Park at Piercy and Tennant
- 5.5 Set a Public Hearing September 3, 2008 for Naming of New Park at King and Dobbin
- 5.6 Set a Public Hearing September 3, 2008 for Naming of New Park at Lundy and McKay

It was moved by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Kramer, and voted unanimously that the Consent Calendar Items be Approved.

6 COUNCIL AND COMMISSION REPORTS

- 6.1 Council Liaison
None
- 6.2 Senior Citizens Commission
None
- 6.3 Youth Commission
None

7 PUBLIC HEARING

8 ACTION ITEMS

- 8.1 Approval of Draft Policies

Kate Crowder, Management Analyst, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department gave an overview of the report stating that staff is seeking Commission approval on the policy changes. She stated that next steps will include a review by the Library Commission, and Attorney's Office and departmental stakeholders review and approval by City Council in the Fall.

Vice-Chair Flaughter requested that the past discussion of having the Parks and Recreation Commission be the decision-making body for park namings be incorporated in Policy 7-5.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Flaughter, seconded by Commissioner Matsushima, and voted unanimously to accept the draft policy changes and it was requested that the Commission be given the opportunity to discuss the naming issue again.

9 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Assistant Director Julie Edmonds-Mares, Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services stated that the ballot language changes were presented to City Council on August 5, 2008. The parks lease initiative re: long term agreements in certain City parks was among them and, based on response received from polling efforts, many voters appeared uncertain about their decision. This is due to the complicated nature of the issue. When the initial polling vote was compared with the vote taken after an explanation of the issue was provided, support for the issue increased and strengthened. An educational component will be a necessary part of this ballot measure. Key changes to the proposed ballot language include: 1) removing the revenue generating term at the beginning of the language and focusing on improving parks and enhancing recreational activities; 2) adding "agreements with non-City entities" in order to clarify the measure further; 3) the term limit for the agreement is up to 25 years. The Mayor and City Council gave further direction to develop the policy prior to November. Staff will update the current policy (7-8) and will bring a draft to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and further input. Councilmember Liccardo also added a "Friendly Amendment" which requests that there will be no proliferation of billboards and that prevailing wage and living wage will be complied with.

Assistant Director Edmonds-Mares made note that, now that the initiative has been placed on the ballot by the Mayor and City Council, City staff and Commissioners are prohibited, as a body, from advocating for this measure however, staff and Commissioners are allowed to provide unbiased education to the public on the ballot language. Additionally, staff and Commissioners are free to take a position as individuals.

Other ballot initiatives that will be moving forward include:

- A 10% reduction rate and modernization of the telecommunication users tax
- A 10% reduction and replacement of the 911 systems fee
- The Long Term Lease Agreements
- Relocation of Fire Station 37 to the Willows Senior Center site

The card room tax issue will not be moving forward.

Assistant Director Edmonds-Mares added that there was an initiative on the Redevelopment Agency agenda that was passed by Mayor and Council re: North San Jose. The Santa Clara County School District has been preparing a Mello-Roos tax which, if it is placed on the ballot and voters pass it, will result in a per residential unit fee in North San Jose of approximately \$30,000. To avoid placing that particular initiative on the ballot, the City and the Redevelopment Agency, along with a few other partners, joined efforts to find other resources. In addition to a commitment of \$75 million, the City is also contributing 8 acres of land located near the Alviso Fire Station for a joint school and parkland development. Assistant Director Edmonds-Mares stated that staff will bring more information to a future Parks and Recreation Commission meeting but felt it was important to inform the Commission that this item was passed by Mayor and City Council.

10 LIAISON REPORTS

10.1 General Plan Task Force Report

Commissioner Hamilton stated that the task force is moving forward.

10.2 Sunshine Reform Task Force

With the expiration of Liaison Ruiz' term on June 30, 2008, this Liaison Report will be deleted from future Parks and Recreation Commission agendas.

10.3 North San Jose Task Force

Commissioner Flaugher stated that Council accepted the report and that staff is now looking at implementing the plan.

10.4 Community Sports Fields Ad-hoc Study Committee

No report.

10.5 Greenprint Ad-hoc Subcommittee

No report.

10.6 Martial-Cottle Project Ad-hoc Committee

No report.

11 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11.1 Presentation on Master Plan for Piercy/Tennant Turnkey

Mary Beth Carter, Senior Landscape Architect, Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services introduced Shari Van Dorn, Consultant from Van Dorn Landscape Architects, Inc. and Ric Denman from Juniper Homes who gave a brief presentation to the Commission. Five acres of open space will be set aside by the developer as part of the development project in addition to land dedication and construction of a new public park. The public park will be maintained by the homeowners association.

11.2 King/Dobbin Park Conceptual Design Presentation

Ms. Carter introduced Barbara Lundberg from RHAA Landscape Architects & Planners and Mark Earth representing the Developers, San Jose Transit Village Partners, LLC. They gave a brief presentation to the Commission. The development at King and Dobbin will total 9 acres and include affordable housing, a family shelter and a senior housing project in addition to market rate housing units. The land development project includes land dedication and construction of a 1 acre, public park.

11.3 Park Trust Fund Allocation Process

Division Manager Matt Cano, Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services stated the purpose of this overview is to give the Commission an idea of how funds are allocated. He then gave a brief presentation stating that there is \$261 million in the Five-Year Capital Budget which comes from four main sources: 1) the Bond funds; 2) the Construction and Conveyance Tax funds; 3) Grants and 4) the Park Trust Fund. Money from the Park Trust Fund must be spent on capital improvements (it can not be used for operations or maintenance) and has to be spent in the nexus of where it was collected. For a neighborhood facility, that is a ¾ mile circle. A community serving facility has a 2 mile nexus. During the Capital Improvement Program budget process an annual prioritization process occurs which determines which projects will receive Park Trust Fund money.

11.4 Review of Parliamentary Procedures/Bylaws

Assistant Director Edmonds-Mares stated that this was included in the agenda for the benefit of the two new Commissioners and gave a brief overview.

11.5 Discussion of Outline/Potential Topics for Parks & Recreation Commission Retreat on August 20, 2008

The Commission discussed and amended the draft agenda for the retreat which will be held on August 20, 2008 at the Almaden Winery.

11.6 Discussion of Potential Topics for Joint Planning/PRC meeting on Sept. 24, 2008

This item was deferred to the August 20, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission Retreat.

11.7 Commissioner News Items

Commissioner Hamilton noted that there is information on Ciclovía, a livable streets movement that's occurring in Bogota, Columbia, at www.streetfilms.org.

11.8 Future Agenda Items

Chair Richardson added a discussion on Public/Private Partnership and expansion of Parkland.

Commissioner Kramer added a discussion on accessibility vs. adaptability in park play structures.

12 CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Parks and Recreation Commission adjourned at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened at 6:40 p.m. as the Citizen Oversight Committee. See separate synopsis for this Committee.

The Citizen Oversight Committee adjourned at 7:20 p.m. and immediately reconvened as the Parks and Recreation Commission.

13 CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 Notice of Preparation of a draft Supplemental Environmental Report for revisions of the Evergreen Development Policy

The Commission noted the informational correspondence

14 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next general Parks and Recreation Committee meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2008.